

## REMARKS

Claims 6-10 are pending in the present application. Claim 6 was amended to improve form. No new matter was introduced as a result of the amendment.

The IDS was objected to for not having a concise explanation of relevance. Applicants have attached an International Search Report to this response, which provides explanations of documents considered in the accompanying PCT application.

The Specification was objected to for informalities. In light of the above amendments, Applicants submit that the objections have been overcome. Withdrawal of the objection is respectfully requested. Regarding the feature "port 10", this feature references port number 10 in the system, where an illustrative embodiment includes the port number in the routing address. The number "10" does not reference a number in the drawings. With regard to the objection regarding the title of the application, Applicants do not understand the nature of the objection. 37 C.F.R. §1.72 provides the following:

*37 CFR 1.72. Title and abstract.*

(a) The title of the invention may not exceed 500 characters in length and must be as short and specific as possible. Characters that cannot be captured and recorded in the Office's automated information systems may not be reflected in the Office's records in such systems or in documents created by the Office. Unless the title is supplied in an application data sheet (§ 1.76), *the title of the invention should appear as a heading on the first page of the specification.*

(emphasis added). Applicants submit that there is nothing objectionable regarding the title in the present application. Withdrawal of this objection is earnestly requested.

Claims 6-10 were rejected under 35 U.S.C §102(b) as being anticipated by Fischer et al. ("IEEE Journal on Selected Areas in Communications," New York, October 8, 1991). Applicants traverse this rejection. Favorable reconsideration is respectfully requested.

Specifically, the cited document does not teach or suggest "reserving additional memory space for storing the routing address of a largest required switching matrix extension both in a header translation table and in the cell header of each ATM cell by placing at least one zero in front of the routing address." In Fischer, a system split is disclosed, where old switching matrix modules are progressively replaced by new switching matrix module connect paths to the same output as the old switching matrix modules, and wherein the paths may be addressed by the same

corresponding routing addresses (page 1302, last paragraph, LHS to first paragraph, RHS, page 1305).

In contrast, the claims in the present application leave the routing addresses unchanged during expansion by reserving additional memory for the largest desired upgrade of the switching matrix in both the header translation table and the header of each ATM cell, and wherein original addresses are preceded by a "0". This simulation of a maximum configuration is not taught or suggested by Fischer. Fischer however, teaches a different solution, wherein a redundant stage of the switching matrix is maximally configured from the outset. During expansion this stage carries traffic while other stages are expanded. Thus, only the routing addresses of existing connections are left unchanged. Furthermore, Fischer fails to teach "writing the new routing addresses for the paths via the extended switching matrix to the additional memory space" for the same reasons.

Accordingly, it is submitted that claims 6-10 are also both novel and non-obvious over the art of record. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case. If any additional fees are due in connection with this application as a whole, the Examiner is authorized to deduct such fees from deposit account no. 02-1818. If such a deduction is made, please indicate the attorney docket no. (0112740-220) on the account statement.

Respectfully submitted,

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